

Message Text

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ACTION INR-10

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SS-15 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 H-01 /052 W
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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5126

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0937

FOR INR/RNA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, PLO, CZ
SUBJECT: PLO REPRESENTATION IN PRAGUE

REF STATE 91578

1. PLO IS REPRESENTED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.
2. AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH PLO OFFICE IN PRAGUE WAS REACHED IN MAY, 1975 WHEN YASIR ARAFAT VISITED HERE, BUT THE PROTOCOL ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE AND FIXING ITS STATUS WAS NOT ACTUALLY SIGNED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1976. PLO REPRESENTATIVE ENJOYS PARTIAL ACCREDITATION, THAT IS, HE IS ACCREDITED TO THE NATIONAL FRONT, A CONFEDERATION OF MASS ORGANIZATIONS HEADED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY. HIS SPONSOR OR MAIN CONTACT HERE IS THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLES OF AFRICA AND ASIA, A COMPONENT OF THE NATIONAL FRONT. PLO REP ABU BAKR IS ASSISTED PART-TIME BY PALESTINIAN STUDENTS, BUT WE KNOW OF NO PERMANENT STAFF.
3. CZECHOSLOVAK STATE DOES NOT RECOGNIZE ANY OF COMPONENT ELEMENTS OF THE PLO: RELATIONS ARE IN EFFECT PARTY-PARTY RELATIONS AS DESCRIBED ABOVE. THIS DOES NOT MEAN, HOWEVER, THAT CZECHS DO NOT APPROVE OR EVEN SUPPORT PLO SUB-UNITS OR OTHER

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PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS.

4. WE DO NOT KNOW PRECISELY WHAT PRIVILEGES ARE ENJOYED BY PLO REP, BUT GIVEN THE WARM POLITICAL TIES WHICH EXIST, WE FEEL CERTAIN ABU BAKR IS ASSURED OF PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES EXTENDED TO OTHER FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES IF NOT BY LAW, THEN DE FACTO. HE IS A FREQUENT VISITOR TO ARAB EMBASSIES AND IS

SEEN ON DIPLOMATIC COCKTAIL CIRCUIT.
BYRNE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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